TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Ricky Armstrong

P.O. Box 12985
Austin, Texas 78711
Voice: (512) 463-5505
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Agency Website: http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us
E-mail Address: info@tcjs.state.tx.us

September 23, 2026

Sheriff George Griffith
Sabine County Sheriff's Office
P. O. Box 848
Hemphill, TX 75948-0848

Dear Sheriff Griffith,

The most recent limited compliance review of the Sabine County Jail on September 14, 2026, by Texas Commission on Jail Standards Inspector Rebecca Perez has demonstrated that your facility remains in compliance with Texas Minimum Jail Standards.

Enclosed you will find the requirement review of areas that were reviewed for the Sabine County Jail.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ricky Armstrong
Executive Director

RA/gw

cc: Judge Daryl Melton, Sabine County

****Note:** Please be advised that one or more areas of technical assistance was provided. The Requirements Review has been attached for your review to ensure that you are fully aware of the issue. Failure to address the technical assistance areas in a timely manner may result in the issuance of a notice of non-compliance.

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Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Chair | **Sheriff Richard Kirkpatrick, Kingsville** | **Commissioner Ben Perry, Waco**
Dr. Esmaeil Porsa, M.D., Vice-Chair | **Ross Reyes, Melissa** | **Duane Lock, Southlake**
Judge Joseph "Joe" Fauth, III, Plantersville | **Patricia M. Anthony, Garland** | **Monica McBride, Alpine**

"The Commission on Jail Standards welcomes all suggestions and will promptly respond to all complaints directed against the agency or any facilities under its purview".
To empower local government to provide safe, secure and suitable local jail facilities through proper rules and procedures while promoting innovative programs and ideas

Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Sabine County

Hemphill, TX

September 14, 2026
Date(s) of Inspection

SUBJECT: **Limited Compliance Review Report**

State Law requires periodic inspections of county jail facilities (VTCA, Local Government Code, Chapter 351, VTCA, Government Code, Chapter 511; Chapter 297.8, Texas Commission on Jail Standards).

☐ The facility was inspected on the date(s) indicated above, and it was determined that deficiencies exist. You are urged: (1) to give these areas of noncompliance your serious and immediate consideration; and (2) to promptly initiate and complete appropriate corrective measures. The Commission is available to discuss or assist you with the appropriate corrective measures required.

Failure to initiate and complete corrective measures following receipt of the Notice of Noncompliance may result in the issuance of a Remedial Order (Chapter 297.8, et seq.).

☑ This facility was inspected on the date(s) indicated above. There were no deficiencies noted and upon review of this report by the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, a certificate of Compliance may be issued per the requirements of VTCA, Chapter 511 and Texas Minimum Jail Standards.

Authenticated:

Rebeca D. Perez, TCJS Inspector

Inter-Office Use Only

Received by:	9/21/2026 Date
Reviewed by:	9/17/2026 Date

cc: **Judge**
Sheriff

Individuals and/or entities regulated by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards shall direct all complaints regarding the commission procedures and functions to the Executive Director at: P.O. Box 12985 Austin, Texas 78711 (512) 463-5505 Fax (512) 463-3185 or at our agency website at www.tcjs.state.tx.us .

RECEIVED
By Gary Wigal at 4:29 pm, Sep 21, 2026

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

County:	Sabine County		
Sheriff	George Griffith	Judge:	Richard Barnett
email	ggriffith@co.sabine.tx.us	email	cookie.cryer@co.sabine.tx.us
Jail Administrator:	Michael J. Olsen	Inspector:	Rebeca D. Perez, TCJS Inspector
email	molsen@co.sabine.tx.us		

Last Inspection: October 23, 2025 Compliant: Yes Inspection Date(s): September 14, 2026

Remedial Order: N/A Effect:

Reportable Incidents (Previous 12 month History)

Fires	0	Escapes	0
Deaths	0	Walkaway	0
Suicides	0	Secured	0

Contract Inmates Housed

San Augustine	16

Date Plans Approved: July 12, 2023

1. ***Facility Name*** Sabine County Jail

Address	310 Main Main Street		Zip Code	75948	Drill Time: N/A
City	Hemphill		State	TX	Facility Capacity: 21
Phone #	409-787-2266	Fax #	409-787-2150		Average Daily Population: 13.42
Built	1983	Renovated: N/A	Addition	N/A	Housing Total this Date: 16
Type	Max	Number of Variances	1		Holding Total this Date: 0

2. ***Facility Name*** _____

Address			Zip Code		Drill Time:
City			State		Facility Capacity:
Phone #		Fax #			Average Daily Population:
Built		Renovated:	Addition		Housing Total this Date:
Type		Number of Variances			Holding Total this Date:

3. ***Facility Name*** _____

Address			Zip Code		Drill Time:
City			State		Facility Capacity:
Phone #		Fax #			Average Daily Population:
Built		Renovated:	Addition		Housing Total this Date:
Type		Number of Variances			Holding Total this Date:

Housing Capacity 21

Cells		Capacity
Sep Cells	3	3
Single Cells	0	0
M.O. Cells	4	18
Dorms	0	0
Neg Press Cells	0	0
Medical Cells	0	0

Notes: Negative Pressure Cells and Medical Cells are in the above count

Holding Capacity 6

Cells		Capacity
Holding Cells	1	3
Detoxification Cells	1	3
Violent Cells	0	0

Construction Security Level

Minimum Capacity	0
Medium Capacity	0
Maximum Capacity	21

Females 4 (Female Population Today)

# of Cells	1
# of Bunks	5

Contract Inmates

100 + Capacity (30% + Non - TX)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Population: (During Inspection) ***Housing*** 16 ***Hold/Detox/Violent*** 0 ***Total System Population*** 16

Total Inspection Time 8 **hours** ***Total Average Daily Population*** 13.42

Interview with Court Representative ☒ Yes ☐ No

Sheriff

Briefed by phone

Jail Administrator

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Commissioners Court Representative

rev. 8/5/26

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS - INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS REVIEW

Rebeca D. Perez, TCJS Inspector

Facility Name: Sabine County **Date:** September 14, 2026

Chapter	Title	Comments
259	New Construction	Not applicable
261	Existing Construction	Not applicable.
263	Life Safety	Reviewed life safety documentation and received photographic evidence that the fire panel has been inspected and is indicating "Normal" mode. **Technical Assistance Provided - Documentation requested during the Limited Compliance Review indicated that no Life Safety Training was conducted during the fourth quarter of 2025. It is important to note that J.A. Olsen was not serving as Jail Administrator during that period. The Sabine County Sheriff's Office has since experienced a change in leadership, including a new Sheriff and a new Jail Administrator. Following the appointment of J.A. Olsen as Jail Administrator in January 2026, Life Safety Training requirements have been completed for the 1st through the 3rd quarters of 2026. The new administration was reminded of the importance of Life Safety Training and the liability associated with not completing all training in accordance with minimum standards. Follow-up required - Staff will scan and email this inspector completed 4th quarter training by November 30, 2026. Failure to complete 2026 4th quarter Life Safety Training could result in a notice of non-compliance being issued.**
265	Admission	Reviewed observation checks for booking and detoxification cells.
267	Release	Not applicable
269	Records/Procedures	Reviewed facility operational plans.
271	Classification	Reviewed a random selection of 5 inmate files. Reviewed internal classification audits. Reviewed policy.
273	Health Services	Reviewed MARs, suicide/mental health screening forms, CCQ, and magistrate notifications. Reviewed restraint logs.
275	Supervision	Reviewed all 7 officer TCOLE certification records. Reviewed officer documentation. Reviewed 30 and 60 minute observation checks.
277	Personal Hygiene	Not applicable.
279	Sanitation	Not applicable.
281	Food Service	Reviewed food service documentation.
283.1	Discipline	Reviewed 0 disciplinary hearing records. There are no disciplinarys filed.
283.3	Grievance	Reviewed 0 inmate grievance/complaints. There are no grievances filed.
285	Exercise	Reviewed recreation logs.
287	Education/Library	Not applicable.
289	Work Assignments	Not applicable.
291.1	Telephone	not applicable.
291.2	Correspondence	Not applicable.
291.3	Commissary	Not applicable.
291.4	Visitation	Not applicable.
291.5	Religious Practices	Not applicable.
xxx	Variances	Not applicable.
xxx	Remedial Orders	Not applicable.
xxx	Complaints	Not applicable.
xxx	CCQ	CCQ inquires are being submitted through TLETS as required.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS
Technical Assistance

Facility Name: **Sabine County** **Date:** **September 14, 2026**

Rebeca D. Perez, TCJS Inspector

Item	Section	Paragraph	Comments
1	263.41		263.41. Training and Drills Training of staff for emergency situations shall be provided immediately upon employment and no less than each calendar quarter for all jail personnel to include fire, emergency, evacuation drills, and location and use of equipment. **Documentation requested during the Limited Compliance Review indicated that no Life Safety Training was conducted during the fourth quarter of 2025. It is important to note that J.A. Olsen was not serving as Jail Administrator during that period. The Sabine County Sheriff's Office has since experienced a change in leadership, including a new Sheriff and a new Jail Administrator. Following the appointment of J.A. Olsen as Jail Administrator in January 2026, Life Safety Training requirements have been completed for the 1st through the 3rd quarters of 2026. The new administration was reminded of the importance of Life Safety Training and the liability associated with not completing all training in accordance with minimum standards.**

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